

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE CU SOLAR DECATHLON TEAM

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the talented group of students who make up the 2007 University of Colorado Solar Decathlon team. These students participated in the Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon competition earlier this month.

The Solar Decathlon is a competition organized by the Department of Energy that gives college students an opportunity to demonstrate practical uses of solar power. This October, 20 university teams from around the country and the world competed in the third Solar Decathlon to build the most energy-efficient, solar-powered house. Each team was required to use solar energy to power the entire house, and was judged on how well its house was able to produce energy for heating, cooling, hot water, lighting, appliances, computers, and charging an electric car. The houses were also critiqued on their overall aesthetic design.

The University of Colorado team designed a fully livable 700 square foot house for the competition and will complete the house with an addition of 1400 square feet with 3 additional bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a breakfast nook, and additional living space. As I toured this remarkable house on the Mall this past week, I was impressed by its modern functionality and the sustainable sources from which it was constructed. I was also impressed with the intelligence and curiosity of the team members that gave me the tour—these students will be among the leaders of engineers and architects guiding our next generation in renewable energy use and production.

This team follows in a strong tradition of entrants from the University of Colorado, which took first overall in the previous two competitions. I want to recognize and congratulate Chad Corbin and Professor Michael J. Brandemuehl, the student and faculty leaders that spearheaded this project, in addition to the many other undergraduate and graduate architecture, engineering, and business students at CU who helped design and build this house. Xcel Energy has already purchased this astonishing house to use as a permanent facility for research, education, and outreach for sustainable living once the competition is over.

These enterprising students from the University of Colorado had a challenge—to take advanced architectural and engineering concepts, put them together in a design, and build a house that could be a model of our energy future. These students met that challenge—and I'm proud of these students and I'm proud that the University of Colorado produced such

a talented team. Most of all, I am proud to represent these young people who are working so hard to make our way of life a sustainable one.

### RECOGNIZING PAULA ROWSE BUONOMO

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Paula Rowse Buonomo of Shrewsbury, MA. Paula has dedicated her working life to helping the people of the Third Congressional District in Massachusetts. In recognition of that work, she has been selected to receive the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award from the Shrewsbury Democratic Town Committee.

Paula has worked for me in my district office in Worcester for the past 10 years. During her stay, she had helped numerous constituents deal with issues associated with Social Security, health care, education, and poverty. She has always been there to lend a helping hand to people in their most desperate times.

Paula has lent her talent to numerous non-profit organizations as well. She serves as a board member of the Worcester County Food Bank, is a member of the Food Advisory Council for the city of Worcester, and is a steering committee participant for the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts grant, "Ending Hunger in Worcester." Paula's effort to end the problem of hunger and poverty is one that we all should aspire to.

A lifelong resident of Shrewsbury, MA, with her husband, Jim, and two grown children, Megan and James, Paula has been a visible face in her community. She served on the Shrewsbury School Committee for two terms and worked on several Proposition 2½ overrides in support of the Shrewsbury public school system.

As someone who has witnessed Paula's tireless work firsthand, I can say that this award could have not gone to a better person. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in honoring Paula Buonomo for receiving this award.

### MYANMAR'S MILITARY DICTATORSHIP

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, last month a group of students and Buddhist monks led a peaceful protest against the government of Myanmar for its decision to cut fuel subsidies, leading to a 100 percent increase in fuel prices. The military stepped in, firing into the

crowds which left at least 10 people dead. By the end of the crackdown, almost 3,000 people had been detained. In response, many countries around the world condemned the violent way in which the government dealt with the protesters. Even China, Myanmar's closest ally, gave its support to the U.N. mission to resolve the crisis.

This is not the first case of violence against innocent people in Myanmar. In 1988, a crackdown on protesters left almost 3,000 dead. The military junta has been ruling the poverty-stricken country of Myanmar for over 45 years and since then has clashed with pro-democracy groups and has been responsible for the abuse and displacement of a variety of ethnic groups.

The thousands of protesters who lined the streets of Myanmar make it clear that people want democracy. Let us not forget that for the anti-democratic extremists who we frequently see in the news, there are thousands of people who peacefully live their lives, hoping for democracy to take over. The United States presence in many of these countries serves as a reminder that they are not alone. We are there to help and to show that democracy does work. We need to step up our efforts and our presence, especially in poverty-stricken and war ravaged countries in East Asia and Africa, to help end human rights abuses and encourage democracy.

And that's just the way it is.

### NATIONAL MONTH OF COMMUNITY PLANNING

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, in 2006, the American Planning Association—known as APA—declared October "National Month of Community Planning" to encourage the visibility of planning efforts in communities throughout the United States. During this month, we recognize the many individuals—the local officials, business leaders, and planners—that have contributed to the planning profession, making some of the great communities we have today. For example, in Highland Park, Illinois, Mayor Michael Belsky publicly thanked the City's planning staff for their dedication via the local newspaper. In Urbana, Illinois, the Planning Film Festival highlights different cities and their efforts to work with their city halls to design better neighborhoods.

The theme for this year's celebration is: "Great Streets, Great Neighborhoods." This theme acknowledges three particular building blocks of great communities: streets, neighborhoods, and the people who make communities unique. As part of this effort, APA celebrates excellence in planning via its "Great Places in America" program, recognizing both great streets and great neighborhoods across our country. I am proud to say that one of these

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